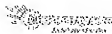


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syn·er·gism (sīn-er-jiz-əm, sī-nur-jiz-) [Fr. Show IPA]

noun

- the interaction of elements that when combined produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements, contributions, etc.
- the joint action of agents, as drugs, that when taken together increase each other's effectiveness (contrasted with *antagonism*).
- Theology, the doctrine that the human will cooperates with the Holy Ghost in the work of regeneration.

Compare **HOMERGISM**.

Origin:

1755-65; < *HL synergismus* < *Gk synerg(ōs) working together* (*syn-* *syn-* + *ergōn*) *work* + *-ōs* adj. suffix) + *HL -ismus* *-ism*

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syn·er·gism (sīn-er-jiz-əm)

n.

- Synergy.**
- Christianity** the doctrine that individual salvation is achieved through a combination of human will and divine grace.

[From Latin *synergismus*, from Greek *synergos*, *working together*: *syn-*, *syn-* + *ergon*, *work*; see *work* in Indo-European roots.]

in American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition
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Synergism

*Syn** or **gism*, *n.* [See *Synergistic*.] (Theol.) the doctrine or theory, attributed to Pelagianism, that in the regeneration of a human soul there is a co[*o*]peration, or joint agency, on the part both of God and of man.

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synergism

1657 (implied in *synergist*), "theological doctrine that human will cooperates with divine grace in regeneration," from *Mod.L.* *synergos* "working together" (see *synergy*). Used in a broader (non-theological) sense by 1925.

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Main Entry: *syn-er-gism*

Pronunciation: 'sɪn-ər-'jɪz-əm

Function: noun

1 Interaction of discrete agents (as drugs) such that the totaleffect is greater than the sum of the individual effects called also *synergy*; — compare ANTAGONISM

synergism *syn-er-gism* ('sɪn-ər-'jɪz-əm)

n.

Synergy.

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